

Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in ~~elaim 12~~ claim 21, wherein said connecting rod (16, 20) is of variable length.

14. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 13, wherein said connecting rod ~~(16, 20)~~ (19, 20) of variable length enables said tool (15) to be positioned in that seeking position in which it is orientated towards the wheel rim center.

15. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claims 13 or 14, wherein said connecting rod of variable length comprises a cylinder-piston unit (16).

16. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in ~~elaim 12~~ claim 21, wherein said means for advancing and withdrawing said bar (14) comprise a cylinder-piston unit (10).

17. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 16, wherein said bar (14) slides within a prolongation (110) of the cylinder of said cylinder-piston unit (10), the

rod of said unit (10) being hinged to said bar (14) by a pair of levers (21) which at their opposite end are hinged via a slot (210) to an appendix (22) branching from the prolongation (110) of the cylinder (11).

18. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in ~~claim 12~~ claim 21, wherein said means for advancing and withdrawing said bar (14) comprise a cylinder-piston unit (10) associated with a carriage (8) which translates vertically on said frame (7).

19. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 18, wherein said carriage (8) is driven in translation by a male-female screw system.

20. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in ~~claim 12~~ claim 21, wherein said demounting tool (15) presents a hook-shaped lower portion for gripping the bead of the tire (6).

21. (New) An automatic device for demounting a tire (6) from a wheel rim (5), comprising:

a frame (7) defining a longitudinal axis,
rotary and support means (3, 4) for rotating and supporting the wheel rim and the tire, said means being associated with said frame,

a demounting tool (15) rotatable around a pivot (26) located on a bar (14) and on an intermediate portion of said tool (15), the tool (15) operatively connected to a first positioning/operating means (100) for positioning said tool in a seeking and first gripping position in which the tool is parallel to said longitudinal axis or rotated around the pivot in a direction towards the center of the wheel rim for gripping a tire bead, and a second positioning/operating means (200) for operating said tool for extracting said tire bead from the wheel rim in which the tool is positioned parallel to said longitudinal axis or rotated around the pivot in a direction opposite to said first direction,

said first positioning/operating means further including a connecting rod (19, 25), and wherein one end of said tool is hinged to said connecting rod, an opposite end of said connecting rod being coupled to said bar by a lever linkage (21), and

said second positioning/operating means further including an advancing and withdrawing means (10), and wherein said bar (14) further being fixed to said advancing and withdrawing means.